

**II. R marks**

Applicant has enclosed a courtesy copy of the clean version of the claims.

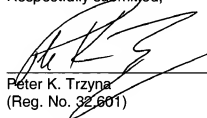
The Examiner is requested to reconsider the application in view of the foregoing amendment. Generally, it is believed that the amendment adds no new matter.

Respectfully, the application, as amended, is believed to be in condition for allowance, and favorable action is requested. If the prosecution of this case can be in any way advanced by a telephone discussion, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (312) 240-0824.

**APPLICANT CLAIMS SMALL ENTITY STATUS.** The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with the above-identified patent application or credit any overcharges to Deposit Account No. 50-0235, and if any extension of time is needed to reply to said office action, this shall be deemed a petition therefor. Please direct all communication to the undersigned at the address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 1, 2003

  
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